

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-06 SS-15 SAI-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:ATURRENTINE

ACDA/NTB:PCORDEN

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UNGA, CCD, US, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-US CONSULTATIONS ON ENMOD CONVENTION

REFS: (A) CAIRO 16526; (B) STATE 278658

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S EFFORTS IN SEEKING
TO OBTAIN EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR ENMOD CONVENTION, BUT
UNGA VOTE WILL OCCUR ON DECEMBER 2 OR 3, WHICH MEANS
THAT THERE IS PROBABLY NOT ENOUGH TIME TO PERMIT
HIGH-LEVEL GOE REVIEW.

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2. LIKE ALL OTHER TREATIES RESULTING FROM MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, THE ENMOD CONVENTION IS THE PRODUCT OF A NUMBER OF COMPROMISES. THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN THE CCD NEGOTIATIONS AND CONCURRED IN A NUMBER OF THE MODIFICATIONS MADE IN THE CONVENTION. WHILE WE APPRECIATE THAT GOE CONCERNS WERE NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED, WE HAD HOPED THAT THE GOE, UPON REFLECTION, COULD ACCEPT AND SUPPORT THE CONVENTION ON ITS MERITS.

3. FYI. THE EGYPTIAN DEL STATED THE FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS IN THE REPORT TO CCD OF THE ENMOD WORKING GROUP: QUOTE. WITH REGARD TO ARTICLE I, THE DELEGATION OF EGYPT (A) BELIEVED IN THE ADDITION OF THE WORDS "OR THREAT OF USE" AFTER THE WORD "USE" IN PARAGRAPH 1; (B) PREFERRED A REFERENCE TO "HOSTILE" USES OF ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES WITHOUT MENTIONING THE WORD "MILITARY" IN THE SAME PARAGRAPH; (C) SUPPORTED THE DELETION OF THE WORD "PARTY" AT THE END OF THE SAME PARAGRAPH. CONCERNING THE SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES, THE DELEGATION WOULD PREFER THE DELETION OF THE WORDS "HAVING WIDESPREAD, LONG-LASTING OR SEVERE EFFECTS". CONCERNING ARTICLE II, THE DELEGATION OF THE EGYPT HAD SUPPORTED THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE ADDITION OF THE WORDS "OR AFFECTING AFTER THE WORD "CHANGING". CONCERNING ARTICLE III, THE DELEGATION HAD NOTED THAT NO MENTION WAS MADE IN THE ARTICLE ABOUT THE LIABILITY OF STATES PARTIES CONCERNING THE PEACEFUL USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES WHICH MIGHT CAUSE DAMAGE OF INJURY TO ANY OTHER STATE, A PRINCIPLE ALREADY APPLICABLE IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. IN SPITE OF THESE COMMENTS, THE DELEGATION OF EGYPT REMAINED CONVINCED OF THE USEFULNESS AND VALUE OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION. IT HAD MADE ITS COMMENTS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT, WITH A VIEW TO NOT BEING AN OBSTACLE OF ANY KIND TO WHATEVER AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED WITHIN THE WORKING GROUP. END QUOTE. END FYI.

4. IF IN EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT IT IS STILL FEASIBLE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAKE A FINAL EFFORT PRIOR TO UN VOTE, YOU MAY DRAW ON REF B (BEING REPEATED) AS APPROPRIATE. ROBINSON

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